

## LAKE QUACUMQUASIT (Brookfield / Sturbridge)

## General Information:

Lake Quacumquasit, commonly known as South Pond, is a 218-acre lake located in Brookfield and Sturbridge about 3 miles north of Route 20. Depth averages 32.5 feet with a maximum of 72 feet. The water is clear and of good quality. Transparency ranges from 12 to 15 feet. The lake has historically registered about 22% of its volume as trout water.

Aquatic weeds are distributed intermittently along most of the shoreline. At the northern end, where Quacumquasit connects with Quaboag, water milfoil, pickerelweed, juncus, and pipewort are common.

The shoreline is about 80% developed with year-round homes and summer cottages. A paved, public boat ramp is located at the north end off Lake Road. The adjacent parking lot can accommodate about 15 cars. Across the road from the parking lot is a public swimming area. Power boating, water skiing, sailing, and fishing are all popular at this attractive pond.

## Fish Populations:

The fish population was most recently studied in depth during a 1995 summer survey; although reduced sampling efforts and a creel census have continued to the present time. The 1995 sample produced 13 species, including a rainbow trout from the spring stocking. Gamefish present includes largemouth bass, chain pickerel and trout. Yellow perch, white perch, pumpkinseed, bluegill and black crappie represented Panfish. Additional species present include white sucker, yellow bullhead, brown bullhead, killifish, golden shiner and landlocked alewives. Brown trout have displayed high growth rates in recent years since the advent of the alewives, and this lake has now been designated a Special Brown Trout Water (see your Abstracts for current length and creel limits).

## Fishing:

South Pond is stocked each spring with 12+ inch rainbow trout, and 12+ inch brown trout. Considerable fishing pressure is exerted towards catching trout from mid-April through the end of June. The clear water and lack of good hiding cover does not produce spectacular bass fishing, hence most interest is for trout.

Ice fishing is popular also, primarily for trout, yellow perch, white perch, pickerel and occasionally a northern pike, which may have strayed into Quacumquasit from nearby Quaboag Pond. A few northerns have been caught here in excess of 30 pounds. The pond has acquired a reputation for producing lunker crappie, brown trout and pike, but ice fishing action is generally quite slow. Be prepared to put in plenty of hours for the occasional big fish.

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